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BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer

of Health

1958



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BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1958

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THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Councillor H.M. Jacob

Vice-Chairman

Councillor R.J. Gibbons

The Mayor

Alderman G.H. Stevens, J.P.

Councillor H.J. Booker

Councillor L.B. Glossop

Councillor Miss D.L.W. Warren

Alderman A.G. Whittaker, J.P.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

V.P. Geoghegan, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector, Surveyor and Engineer

H.W. Simmonds, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B.

Clerical Staff

R.A. Pryke

Miss G.A.E. Osgood

Health Department,
Council Offices,
ARUNDEL.

August, 1959.

TO: His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen
and Councillors of the BOROUGH OF ARUNDEL.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Eleventh Annual Report on the health of the Borough and the work of the Public Health Department during 1958.

The principal vital statistics for the year, together with comparative figures for 1957, are :-

	<u>Arundel Borough.</u>		<u>England and Wales.</u>	
	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>
Estimated Home Population ..	2,620	2,610	45,109,000	44,907,000
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.03	12.26	16.4	16.1
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	17.55	12.64	11.7	11.5

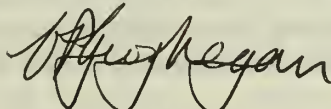
In a small population fluctuations in annual birth and death rates are of no significance.

The continuing importance of Diphtheria Immunisation and the opportunity now offered for Poliomyelitis Vaccination are stressed in Section VI of the report.

I wish to express my thanks to Members of the Council for their help, and to Mr. H.W. Simmonds, your Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, who has supplied most of the material for the report.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

This small country town lying on the banks of the River Arun is a shopping centre for the surrounding villages.

The population finds employment in agriculture and its ancillary industries, on the Norfolk Estate and in the retail and catering trades encouraged by the increasing number of summer visitors.

It has been said that Annual Reports of Medical Officers are not reports on the health of the people so much as reports on their ill health. This is to some extent true, but whilst a condition of good health is a positive thing, it is difficult to assess except in negative terms if the statistical method is to be followed and comparisons are to be drawn with previous experience. It is true to say that the health of the Town during 1958 was good, but by what criterion is that "goodness" to be judged? Was health better than it was in 1957, 1948, 1938, or 1908?

The answer becomes easier and clearer the further the observer stands away from the picture. Over a single year the improvement is small; it may even be fallacious, a mere accident of figures, but the longer the period over which comparisons are made the more obvious it is that health has become progressively better.

In England and Wales we are fortunate in having reliable statistics covering the criteria of health and disease and going back over a hundred years. It is therefore easy to show that people are living longer, suffering less from infectious diseases, and that their childrens chances of survival into adult life are very much better than they used to be.

Other facts, not unconnected with the clear improvements in health, are that the majority of people enjoy a very much higher standard of living; poverty in the sense in which that word was understood fifty years ago has vanished, and opportunities for the enjoyment of leisure have increased enormously. Sanitary comfort - clean water, hot water, decent kitchen facilities, bathrooms, drainage - is not only available but demanded and achieved by many.

Nobody need want for medical treatment if they are ill, and the quality of that treatment is not governed by their capacity to pay for it.

What then remains to be done to maintain the improved standard of health and to ensure continued progress? There

Statistics and Social Conditions (Contd.)

remains in the first place the extension of sanitary comfort to all who at present lack it by the continued improvement of existing houses and by the building of new houses to replace those beyond improvement.

The care of old people must be regarded as a problem second only in importance to the general housing problem. As a problem, it can never diminish in size while the population continues to live longer, and although the broad lines of the measures needed are generally accepted, and powers to provide the necessary buildings and services already exist, the provision itself is often inadequate.

Furthermore, public provision for old people must be supplementary to private family responsibility. A tendency towards evasion of this responsibility has to some extent been encouraged by the publicity given to schemes for old people's welfare. Old folk are often difficult, sometimes a social embarrassment, at the best a responsibility to their children, and generally, with the best intentions in the world, they interfere with the upbringing of the third generation when three generations live in one household. Nevertheless the active generation is responsible for the welfare of the older generation, either directly by looking after them at home, or indirectly through public welfare homes and hospitals.

Although a welfare home may be an attractive idea to the younger generation, saddled, as they think, with a cantankerous grandmother, it is very much cheaper to keep grandmother at home and she will generally be much happier there too. It doesn't seem cheaper, but the earning generation has to pay much more per head for each old person in a home than at home.

Having said that, the fact remains that more accommodation is required for the aged chronic sick who need nursing, for the aged active who need no nursing, and for the most difficult category of all, namely, the aged who fall between these two classes. They need some nursing or assistance which makes them unsuitable for an old people's welfare home but does not justify the occupation of a hospital bed.

The aged fit naturally cling to their independence. They also tend to cling, quite understandably, to the house in which they have always lived even when that house is too big for their needs and beyond their ability to maintain. Their need will call increasingly for the special provision of small houses, bungalows, flats and flatlets. Their accommodation is the responsibility of Housing Authorities, and it is a

Statistics and Social Conditions (Contd.)

responsibility which can only go on increasing as the proportion of old people in the population increases.

There was no notable incidence of disease during the year; details are given in Section VI of the report.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	..	..	..	..	2,054
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population					
(1957 mid-year)					2,610
Registrar-General's Estimate of Home Population					
(1958 mid-year)					2,620
Number of inhabited dwellings	..	..			988
Rateable Value (31st December, 1958)	..				£ 42,726
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	..	..			£ 178

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

ARUNDEL BOROUGH								Birth Rate per 1000 population		
Total number (after adjustment for transfers)						Birth Rate per 1,000 population		West Sussex Districts		England and Wales
Year	Total	Sex		Illegitimate		population		Rural	Urban	
		M	F	Number	%	Crude	Corr.			
1957	32	15	17	Nil	-	12.26	14.83	13.19	15.02	16.1
1958	42	24	18	2	4.76	16.03	19.39	13.06	15.43	16.4

Stillbirths

ARUNDEL BOROUGH				Rate per 1000 total		Rate per 1000	
Total Number (after				live & still) births		population	
adjustment for transfers)				Arundel	England	Arundel	England
Year	Total	Sex					
		M	F	Wales	Wales		
1957	1	-	1			24.39	22.4
1958	2	2	-	45.45	21.6	0.76	0.36

Vital Statistics (Contd.)

Total (live and still) Births.

<u>1958.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	24	18	42
Still Births	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTAL BIRTHS	<u>26</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>44</u>

Infant Mortality - Deaths of Infants under 1 Year.

INFANT DEATHS				RATES PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS			
ARUNDEL BOROUGH				Arundel Borough	West Sussex		England and Wales
Year	Total	Sex			R.D's.	U.D's.	
		M	F				
1957	Nil	-	-	-	18.	20.	23.0
1958	1	1	-	-	23.8	19.	22.5

Infant Mortality Rates - Arundel Borough		
Year	Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births
1957	-	-
1958	25.0	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 Weeks of Age.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1957	-	-	-
1958	1	-	1

NEO NATAL MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS :

	<u>1958.</u>	<u>1957.</u>
All infants per 1,000 live births	23.8	-
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	25.0	-
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	Nil	-

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS PER CENT OF TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS.. ..	4.76	-
--	------	---

Vital Statistics (Contd.)

Maternal Deaths (including Abortion).

Arundel Borough Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 total births					
Year	Total Deaths	Arundel Borough	West Sussex		England and Wales
			R.D's.	U.D's.	
1957	-	-	-	0.29	0.47
1958	-	-	0.49	-	0.43

Deaths

ARUNDEL BOROUGH						WEST SUSSEX DISTRICTS		ENGLAND AND WALES
Total Deaths (after adjustment for transfers)				Death Rates per 1000 population		Death Rate per 1000 population		Death Rate per 1000 population
Year	Total	Sex		Crude	Corr.	Rural	Urban	
		M	F					
1957	33	10	23	12.64	9.48	12.08	13.37	11.5
1958	46	26	20	17.55	13.16	13.09	14.22	11.7

The chief causes of death were :-

	1958	1957
(i) Diseases of heart and circulatory system	14	13
(ii) Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	11	10
(iii) Diseases of respiratory system ..	7	3
(iv) Cancer	6	6

The above four causes accounted for 38 or 82% of the total deaths recorded during the year.

Of the total deaths, 38 or 82% occurred in persons aged 65 years or over, and of these 24 or 52% of the total deaths were in persons aged 75 years or over.

A table showing the causes of death, ages and sex distribution, is set out on page 10.

No deaths occurred from the following causes :-

Vital Statistics (Contd.)

<u>R.G. List</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Cause.</u>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory.
2.	Tuberculosis, other.
3.	Syphilitic disease.
4.	Diphtheria
5.	Whooping Cough
6.	Meningococcal Infections.
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis.
8.	Measles
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases.
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast.
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus.
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.
16.	Diabetes.
22.	Influenza.
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis.
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate.
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.
34.	All other accidents.
36.	Homicide and operations of war.

Table of Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life - 1958.

R. G. List No.	Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	Weeks		Y e a r s							
				0-	4-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-	
	ALL CAUSES	M F	26 20	1 -	- -	1 -	1 -	- -	2 3	9 5	8 8	4 4	
10	Malignant neoplasms, stomach	M F	2 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	1 -	1 -	- -	
11	Ditto lung, bronchus	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -	
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	M F	6 5	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	2 2	2 1	1 2	
18	Coronary disease, angina	M F	4 4	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	2 2	1 -	1 1	
19	Hypertension with heart disease	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	
20	Other heart disease	M F	2 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 1	- 1	1 -	
21	Other circulatory disease	M F	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	
23	Pneumonia	M F	1 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- 2	- 1	
24	Bronchitis	M F	2 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 -	- -	
25	Other disease of respiratory system	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	
31	Congenital malformations	M F	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	
32	Other defined & ill- defined diseases	M F	2 2	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 2	1 -	
33	Motor vehicle accidents	M F	1 -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	
35	Suicide	M F	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	- -	

Section II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Hospitals.

The hospitals providing accommodation and treatment for residents of the Borough are administered by the South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, and are as follows :-

St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.
Royal West Sussex Hospital, Chichester.
Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.
Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, Brighton.
Zachary Merton Maternity Home, Rustington.
Aldingbourne House Sanatorium.
Bognor Annex to Aldingbourne House.
Swandean Isolation Hospital, Worthing.
Arundel and District Hospital.
Worthing Hospital.

Laboratory Service.

Examinations carried out for this Authority by the Public Health Laboratory at Portsmouth during 1958, were as follows :-

<u>Nature of Specimen.</u>	<u>Number Examined.</u>
Water	35
Milk	36

Ambulances.

The Local Health Authority (the West Sussex County Council) provides an ambulance service with ambulances operating from Littlehampton.

Ambulances for the removal of infectious cases are stationed at Chichester, Worthing and Horsham.

Home Nursing and Midwifery.

The West Sussex County Council provides nursing services.

One District Nurse in Arundel is responsible for Home Nursing, Midwifery, School and Health Visiting duties.

General Provision of Health Services (Contd.)

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

		<u>Held at:</u>
Maternity and Child Welfare		
Centres	-)	Arundel,
Ante-Natal Clinics	-)	Chichester,
School Clinics (Minor Ailments	-)	and
Eye Clinics	-)	Littlehampton.
Orthopaedic Clinic	-	Littlehampton.
Speech Therapy Clinic	-	Littlehampton.
Aural Clinic	-	Chichester
Chest Clinic	-	Aldingbourne Sanatorium
Venereal Diseases Clinics	-	Worthing Hospital and St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

Sections 47 and 50.

No action was necessary during the year.

Section III.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the Borough is provided by the Duke of Norfolk's Estate, from a borehole and well situated in Mill Road near Swanbourne Lake, and is pumped unfiltered to reservoirs in Arundel Park and Herons Wood.

The quantity of water available is estimated to be sufficient for the steady development of the district for many years to come.

Water consumed in the Borough is purchased in bulk at 10d. per thousand gallons. This will be increased to 1/- per thousand gallons as from 1st April, 1959.

All water pumped is chlorinated at the Waterworks before distribution and a constant supply maintained to almost every house in the Borough. Only one very isolated cottage is not on mains supply - this house depends on underground rainwater storage tanks for water.

The Chlorination plant which is maintained by the Corporation consists of an Ammoniator, a Chlorinator and a Reagent Feed using Sodium Hypochlorite. Constant supervision is maintained of this plant by a Resident Engineer. The plant is regularly serviced by Messrs. Wallace and Tiernan Ltd. under contract with the Corporation.

One new 4" main with a total length of 204 yards was laid by direct labour during the year with four sluice valves. One new fire hydrant was installed.

Specimens of raw water from both the borehole and the well, and of chlorinated water from consumers' taps, were submitted for bacteriological examination at regular intervals. A total of 35 samples were submitted and the table on page 14 gives details of the reports received.

The twelve samples of chlorinated water taken from consumers' taps were found to be of satisfactory purity. The bacterial quality of the water is therefore at most times dependent upon efficient chlorination. Interruption of chlorination is avoided as far as possible by careful supervision of the plant and its operation.

Water Supply (Contd.)

No. of Samples Taken	Source	PATHOLOGIST'S REPORT			
		R a w W a t e r			Chlorinated
		Satis- factory	Contamination Moderate	Marked	Supply Satisfactory
11	Borehole	-	4	7	-
12	Well	1	1	10	-
12	Distribution Mains	-	-	-	12
35	TOTALS	1	5	17	12

Samples from the borehole and well were also submitted for full chemical analysis. The Analyst reports both waters clear and bright in appearance, hard in character and containing no excess of mineral constituent in solution. Both waters were also reported as being of the highest organic quality but showing bacterial impurity. Treatment is therefore required but the waters are such as can be readily rendered suitable for public supply by efficient chlorination.

Water Statistics for the year ending 31st March, 1958.

Water Consumption in the Borough.

		Gallons	
		Total	Per Day
(1) Domestic and unmetered supplies ..		38,204,050	104,668
(2) Industrial and trade supplies by meter		2,677,790	7,337
Total for area of supply ..		40,881,840	112,005

Supplies through Corporation mains for the Duke of Norfolk's Estate, under Water Agreement.

		Gallons	
		Total	Per Day
(a) Tortington		414,560	1,136
(b) Lyminster		25,816,600	70,730
Totals		26,231,160	71,866

		Gallons	
		Total	Per Day
Increased consumption of water supplied through Borough mains over 1957 to outlying areas		3,394,600	9,300
Increased consumption of water supplied by Corporation over the year 1957 ..		6,041,400	16,551

Water Statistics (Contd.)

Maximum weekly consumption	..	..	994,910 gallons
Minimum weekly consumption	..	..	682,730 gallons
Gallons per head per day (exclusive of metered supplies)	..	..	34.2 gallons
Gallons per head per day (inclusive of metered supplies)	..	..	36.6 gallons
Number of metered supplies	..	..	38
Length of mains owned by the Corporation			6.59 miles
Estimated population supplied		..	3,054
Number of consumers	..	..	1,130

During the year detection of misuse and waste of water continued. A number of defective appliances were found and rectified, and leaks remedied. There was only one major water mains burst during 1958. Sundry maintenance works to valves, renewals of meters, etc. were also carried out. There was one complete failure of the supply due to an error in valve closing.

Byelaws for the prevention of waste, misuse of water, etc. were confirmed by the Ministry and came into operation on the 19th April, 1956. Further amendments to these Byelaws were made by the Corporation and received the Minister's approval early in 1957.

By agreement, the Corporation provide water to their Stewards Copse Housing Estate and private estate development in Tortington parish situated within the statutory supply area of the Bognor Regis Urban District Council.

The Borough is served by two reservoirs : (a) Castle Park reservoir (O.D.142), and (b) Herons Wood reservoir (O.D.200).

The Castle Park Reservoir serves the old town area and outlying area in Worthing Rural District. The Herons Wood Reservoir serves approximately a third of the Borough mainly the western part of the District where ground levels are highest.

The mains from each reservoir are linked and controlled by a series of valves which in an emergency would enable the entire area to be served from either reservoir.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Council have two sewerage disposal works - a small works in Fitzalan Road on the south-east side of the River, and the main works in Ford Road on the north-west side.

In addition, there are two small works installed by a private estate developer which will ultimately take the drainage from approximately 24 new houses.

All outfalls are to the River Arun which necessitates holding tanks as the river is tidal.

There are several direct outfalls from soil and rain water sewers to the river apart from the sewage works. The majority of these are penstock controlled, some manually and some automatic. Nearly all these outfalls are in the old town section of the Borough.

The sewers are partially separated, some rain water is received into the sewage works, the remainder runs into separate sewers which discharge into the River Arun.

As in past years complaints of bad smells were received from residents in the neighbourhood of the Ford Road Works. Treatment of the sewage in the summer months with Sodium Hypochlorite is carried out at the detritus tank. This has proved partially satisfactory and has reduced to some extent the complaints except in very humid weather.

The main sewage works are very antiquated, being designed for chemical precipitation and sludge pressing - a method long since abandoned by local authorities. The sludge pressing machinery has not been used since about 1914. The volume of sewage increases each year with new houses being erected and improved sanitary appliances in the older houses. In addition, with the growth of the Torton Hill Estate, the works are rapidly becoming surrounded and are no longer isolated as they were when established some 50 years ago.

The time is now approaching when the whole question of the sewerage system and disposal works must be replanned. In October, 1957, the Corporation invited Messrs. Howard Humphreys Ltd., Consulting Engineers, to report on the cost of reviewing the existing sewerage arrangements. In view of their preliminary intimation as to the probable cost of preparing such a scheme, it was decided to ask for the report in the forthcoming financial year.

No works of alteration were carried out at either of the sewage works during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage (Contd.)

There has again been considerable activity during the year in the laying of new foul and storm water sewers, principally in connection with the proposed Private Estate development. Lengths of foul sewers laid within the Borough during the year were 220 yards of 6" diameter, and 30 yards of 4" diameter. In addition, foul sewers totalling approximately 150 yards of 6" diameter were laid outside the Borough in connection with private estate development and connected to the Corporation's sewers by agreement.

Storm water sewers laid in the Borough amounted to 50 yards of 12" diameter; 50 yards of 9" diameter, and 117 yards of 4" diameter. Storm water sewers were also laid outside the Borough as in the case of the foul sewers mentioned above and again connected to the Corporation's mains. These included 100 yards run of 12" diameter; 75 yards of 6" diameter and 50 yards of 4" diameter.

Works of repair to sewers included the laying of some 50 feet of 6" diameter cast iron pipes to replace the old square wooden soil sewer in River Road which collapsed at the outfall to the river.

The storm water sewer in Priory Road burst necessitating the renewal of some 50 yards of main with 12" diameter spun concrete tubes. In addition, and in conjunction with the West Sussex County Council, some 150 yards of ditch was sludged at the storm water outfall off Ford Road.

Two of the manually operated penstocks in the soil sewer outfalls to the river broke down and had to be renewed.

Repeated back flooding of the soil and storm water sewers again took place in Surrey Street, Queens Lane and River Road. This unfortunately occurs when there is heavy rainfall coupled with high tides which lock the sewer outfalls.

There are eight premises still using bucket closets with soakaway drainage for sullage water, whilst 31 other premises have water carriage sanitation and either run to cesspools or soakaways. All these premises are situated in positions which make it impossible to connect to a sewer or where main drainage is not available.

Public Conveniences.

The Corporation owns two public conveniences - one on the Town Quay and the other in Mill Road.

Both are satisfactorily maintained.

Rivers and Streams.

During the Summer a series of water samples were taken for bacteriological examination from the River Arun at points two miles upstream and 2 miles down stream from the River Bridge. Samples were taken of water on both ebb and flow tides and at high and low water. In all cases the pathologist reported gross bacterial contamination.

No other action was necessary to check pollution of streams in the area.

A varying number of vessels are moored to wharves on the River Arun. Whilst these craft are mainly for Summer use, two such vessels are used permanently for habitation.

Public Cleansing.

The Council continues the weekly collection of household refuse throughout the Borough. Trade refuse is also removed by agreement.

A new diesel refuse vehicle was commissioned in January and the existing freighter converted to a lorry for the Public Works Department and reserve refuse collector.

The opportunity was taken to re-organise the refuse collection service. With the addition of over 300 houses since the war this important service has become a full-time occupation. Four men are now fully engaged on refuse collection and disposal, one man being engaged on the refuse tip.

Unfortunately the salvage of waste paper had to be abandoned owing to the lack of an economic market. Only a small quantity of scrap metal was sold during the year from which the sum of £24 was realised. This shows a decrease of £116 compared with the revenue from salvaged materials for the previous year.

Refuse tipping has been carried out during the year on the Spring Ditch site and good progress has resulted. Every effort has been made to carry out "controlled tipping" and one employee is engaged full-time on the tip for this purpose.

During the summer months use was made of the Scotland Barn tip which is still retained for the occasional disposal of goods not wanted on the Spring Ditch site, i.e., sawdust, old iron, etc.

It is interesting to note that land reclaimed by refuse tipping in Canada Road is now being put to good use. A part has been utilised for the erection of four Old Folks dwellings and a Scout Hall is being erected on another section.

Public Cleansing (Contd.)

Tipping of earth is still permitted on the rest of the old tip in Canada Road to help in levelling the surface. This section is now almost ready for proper levelling and grassing to convert it into the Playing Field.

Every effort is made to keep under control the potential menace of flies and rats on the tips. They are sprayed with "Gammoxane" for flies and regularly treated for rats.

Unfortunately, it would appear that with the continual use of D.D.T. preparations a certain amount of immunity resistance has been built up by the flies. As a result, experiments had to be made with various other insecticides before successful results were obtained.

The Corporation has continued the scavenging of both County and District Roads as well as the routine emptying of street gullies in the District Roads. They have also assisted the West Sussex County Council in the clearance of snow and dealing with icy conditions on all roads in the Borough.

Shops Act, 1950.

Seven visits were made to shops under the above Act, and no contraventions observed.

The Council have by order waived the half day closing for a period of four months during the summer.

Smoke Abatement.

No action has been necessary in this direction.

Eradication of Bed Bugs, Fleas, etc.

One complaint of infestation by cockroaches was received during the year. This proved a very severe and stubborn infestation necessitating several treatments before being finally cleared.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Numerous enquiries are received, particularly in the Summer months for sites for caravans and campers. Most of them find accommodation in the rural area to the South of the Borough.

One site in the Borough is licensed for camping purposes under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. It comprises .715 of an acre, is licensed for three movable dwellings, and has a main water supply and dry conservancy sanitary facilities.

Tents, Vans and Sheds (Contd.)

No formal action was necessary during the year.

The Corporation have not adopted Byelaws to control Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Swimming Baths.

There is no public swimming pool in the Borough.

The Corporation have under consideration the establishment of an open air swimming pool, and a Sub-Committee has made a report on the matter. The project has, however, been temporarily deferred to investigate financial and technical matters in connection therewith.

The miniature pool at the Roman Catholic School continues to be used by the pupils for swimming instruction. The pool is filled with mains water and chemically treated by the staff.

The River Arun still attracts a fair number of swimmers which is surprising in view of its dangerous banks, the very rapid flow, and the mineral and bacterial content of the water.

Rats and Mice Destruction.

The West Sussex No. 2 Workable Area Committee set up in 1944 has continued to meet quarterly in Littlehampton, the Public Health Inspector being the representative of the Borough on this Committee.

Matters regarding rodent control are dealt with by the Council's part-time Rodent Operator. As a result of independent investigations, block control and complaints received, only a few minor infestations were discovered and dealt with.

Council properties are regularly treated as a precautionary measure.

Two main features of an otherwise steady year's work were firstly the investigation of all agricultural holdings, and secondly, the test baiting of the sewers. Both investigations, however, proved no major infestations.

The part-time Rodent Operator attended a refresher training course arranged by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Schools.

No changes were made in the existing sanitary facilities at either of the two schools in the Borough during the year.

The Managers of the Church of England School have agreed to a scheme for reorganising and modernising the sanitary conveniences at that school. It is hoped to put the work in hand early in the new year.

Factories Act, 1937.

There are forty-four factories and workplaces in the Borough, of which twenty-eight are provided with mechanical power.

Visits to:

factories with mechanical power ...	...	66
factories without mechanical power ...	...	6
workplaces ...	...	3
outworkers ...	...	1

Number of defects:

observed... ..	6
remedied... ..	7

Section 34.

One certificate of "adequate means of escape in case of fire" was issued during the year.

Summary of Visits and Inspections under Public Health and Housing Acts

Infectious Disease	4
Ice Cream Premises	2
Butchers' Shops and Slaughterhouse	20
Dairies	3
Other Food Premises	21
Shops Act	7
Tents, Vans and Sheds	8
Offices	4
Marine Stores	1
Public Conveniences	36
Water Supplies and Appliances	118
Refuse Disposal Tips	54
Sewage Works and Sewers	31
Building Byelaws	720

Summary of Visits and Inspections (Contd.)

Dangerous Structures	..	..	..	10
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	96
Re-visits	..	..	..	263

Other Visits.

Re Council House tenancies	..	..	..	34
District Roads	..	..	..	213
Street Lighting	..	..	..	19
Petroleum Regulations	..	..	..	11
Town Planning	..	..	..	21
Advertisements	..	..	..	5
Civil Defence	..	..	..	3
Allotments	..	..	..	24

Work and Improvements.

Rooms disinfected after infectious disease	..	..	..	2
Quantities of bedding destroyed	..	..	..	2
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	10
Drains relaid and tested	..	..	..	54
Drains cleared	..	..	..	4
New drains laid	..	..	..	36
Earth Closets converted to Water Closets	..	..	..	-
Premises connected to main drainage	..	..	..	30
Premises connected to water main	..	..	..	24

Summary:

Total Inspections made for all purposes	..	2,101
Notices Served: (a) Informal	..	38
(b) Statutory	..	-
Complaints received	..	60
Nuisances found and abated	..	38

Interviews:

Re: (a) Building Byelaws	..	..	87
(b) Town Planning	..	..	64
(c) Advertisements	..	..	8
(d) Housing Repairs etc.	..	..	39
(e) Housing Tenancies	..	..	41
(f) Housing - Improvement Grants	..	..	8
(g) Water	..	..	26
(h) Refuse collection and disposal	..	..	10
(i) District Roads	..	..	13
(j) Miscellaneous	..	..	97

Section IV.

Council Housing.

Rehousing.

The year was again one of steady if not spectacular progress towards better housing conditions.

Eighteen families were rehoused by the Corporation during the year. Eight families went into new houses and 10 to fill casual vacancies occurring in existing houses. Seven of these families were from condemned houses.

At the beginning of December the waiting list for Council houses was revised at the instruction of the Housing Committee in order to obtain more up-to-date information.

As a result, at the end of the year, the Council's list recorded 52 applicants, 40 of whom either work or reside in the Borough.

Council Houses - Repairs and Maintenance.

Works of repair and maintenance to the Corporation properties are carried out by direct labour. Five men are permanently employed for this purpose.

Each house contributes £15 per annum to the Housing Repairs Fund, and a further £500 has been allotted from balances for the Pre-War Houses Improvement Scheme for this year. The total sum available for the year 1958/59 is £4,205.

In addition to the direct labour scheme, the Council operate a free issue scheme for decorating materials as they do not undertake internal decoration of houses.

Pre-war Council Houses - Improvement Scheme.

The Corporation owned before the war some 81 houses, 37 being terrace houses and the rest semi-detached three bedroomed houses. All these houses lacked modern facilities, particularly the terrace houses. At the end of 1957, the Corporation decided to effect improvements and modernise the houses by direct labour.

This scheme has been put into effect and by the end of the year 14 terrace houses had been completed. The works comprised the provision of indoor sanitation, hot and cold water supply, wash basin, removal of kitchen ranges, the installation of back boilers, tiled hearths and surrounds, linen cupboards, electrical points, etc. The basic standard is to provide, as far as possible, the facilities given in the modern Council House.

The average cost per completed house to date has been approximately £210.

Council Housing (Contd.)

Although a rent increase of 2/- per week has resulted from these improvements, the general reaction of the tenants has been that it is well worth while.

New Houses and Other Works.

The following new dwellings were erected and occupied during the year :-

- 4 - 2 bedroomed flats - Jarvis Road (1957 Scheme).
- 4 - Old Folks Dwellings - Canada Road (1958 Scheme).
(These comprise 2-single person units and 2-two person units).

Two - 3 bedroomed houses were also under construction in Canada Road and should be completed early in the new year.

During the year a public footpath has been formed through the Stewards Copse Housing Estate linking Pearson and Jarvis Roads.

Future Development.

With conclusion of the 1958 Scheme, no further land is available for council houses on the Stewards Copse Housing Estate.

The Estate, which is of some 26 acres, up until seven years ago contained nearly 20 acres of woodland. It now houses 162 dwellings, garages and a Scout Hall. Areas are further reserved for Police Houses, Shopping Centre, additional garages, public open space and tentatively, a playing field.

As a result the Corporation has resolved to negotiate with His Grace the Duke of Norfolk for an extension of the Estate by the acquisition of a further four acres of land. This land, together with land already owned by the Corporation, will make it possible to develop and erect some 38 dwellings. The Housing Committee feel unable at this stage to commit themselves to any specific development owing to the primary necessity of laying out Roads and Services. They feel, however, that the land is necessary for the progressive housing development during the next few years.

An outline layout of the area has been produced and approved by the Council and outline development consent obtained from the West Sussex County Council. The layout has been so adapted as not to restrict even further future development. The Duke of Norfolk has intimated his agreement in principle with the acquisition of the land by the Corporation and at the close of the year negotiations were in progress for the purchase.

Future Development (Contd.)

The Borough Surveyor has received instructions to proceed with the final road works required at the southern end of Jarvis Road. These works are, however, held up for the present by reason of the fact that it is adjacent to the new spur road into the land the Council wish to acquire and referred to previously.

Garages.

Six lock-up garages were erected on a site off Pearson Road during the year.

Owing to the number of vehicles found to be parked around the Stewards Copse Housing Estate, and the demand for further garages, the Housing Committee have instructed the Borough Surveyor to prepare a scheme for a further six garages to be sited adjacent to those already existing.

The slum clearance area in River Road was finally cleared and a further nine garages erected on the site.

Summary of Housing Accommodation administered by the Corporation.

Set out herewith are details of accommodation administered by the Corporation as at 31st December, 1958 :-

Council Houses:

Erected pre-war	..	..	..	81
Erected post-war	..	..	..	<u>170</u>
				251
Almshouses	..	..	..	6
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	<u>2</u>
			Total	<u>259</u>

Two chimney fires were reported by the Fire Brigade at Council Houses. No claims were made on the Council's Insurance Company in respect of damage caused by the fires.

Private Housing.

A considerable number of works of alterations, repair and improvement of the older houses has again taken place.

Since 1946, the Corporation have acquired 20 sub-standard houses with the object of demolition. Of these no less than 19 have now been demolished, and the other remains occupied.

Private Housing (Contd.)

Re-housing of families from sub-standard houses, where either Demolition or Closing Orders under the Housing Acts have been made, has resulted in 7 families comprising 13 persons being rehoused into new dwellings during the year. A further 4 families comprising 10 persons have moved from condemned houses to accommodation obtained privately.

The Corporation has endeavoured to continue an effective policy of demolition and closing of houses in such a condition as to be unfit for human habitation. During the past ten years 40 such houses have been demolished in the Borough and a further 12 closed.

Wherever possible, however, the Council welcome the submission of schemes of improvement and modernisation of such buildings. By this means, seven demolition or closing orders have been revoked and good houses resulted. Undertakings have been accepted in respect of two further such houses where works were in progress at the end of the year.

A summary of the position regarding sub-standard houses at the end of 1958 was as follows :-

Demolition Orders:

Undertakings to recondition accepted	Nil
Undertakings to use only as stores accepted	1
Still occupied	4
Standing empty	8

Closing Orders:

Undertakings to recondition accepted	2
Undertakings not to relet accepted ..	1
Still occupied	1
Standing empty	8

The Corporation informed the Minister of Housing and Local Government in August, 1955, that they proposed dealing with 40 sub-standard houses in the following five years. So far, 34 such dwellings have been dealt with in this manner, as follows :-

Closing Orders:

Orders made	10
Houses Closed	8
Families rehoused	6
Still occupied	1
Orders revoked after reconditioning ..	1
Undertakings to recondition accepted	2

Private Housing (Contd.)

Demolition Orders:

Orders made	..	..	..	24
Houses demolished	.	..	..	9
Houses closed	..	..	..	15
Families rehoused	..	..	..	12
Houses still occupied	..	..	..	6
Orders revoked after reconditioning	..	..	..	6
Undertakings to recondition accepted				Nil

Improvement Grants.

Little interest has been apparent in the Government's scheme of Improvement Grants under the Housing Act.

Preliminary enquiries were made in respect of five premises and ten visits were made to the premises concerned.

It would appear that once an applicant has made up his mind to effect improvements, particularly an owner-occupier, he wishes to proceed with the works immediately and does not take kindly to the delay necessitated by the procedure which has to be gone through by the local authority. As a result, not infrequently the applicant carries on with improvements and does not pursue the question of a grant.

Of the five preliminary enquiries only one resulted in an application which was approved for a 50% grant.

Rent Act, 1957.

Four applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair under the above Act.

Two such certificates were ultimately issued and eight visits made in respect of the applications. Neither certificate had been cancelled at the end of the year.

Two applications were cancelled as a result of the owner effecting the necessary repairs on receipt of the preliminary form.

New Private Houses.

Six houses were completed by private enterprise and a further eight dwellings were under construction at the end of the year. In addition, plans had been approved for a further three dwellings, also outline approvals for another twenty-eight houses.

Six houses were erected and two more were under construction, together with roads and services, on a private estate adjoining

New Private Houses.

the Borough boundary but within the Chichester Rural District.

This makes some 80 houses in Tortington Parish now linked with the Corporation's sewers and water mains.

Housing Statistics.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts)	64
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	240
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses included under sub-heading (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	32
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	177
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-heading), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	47

2. Remedying of defects without service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority	35
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3. Remedying of defects with service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action by the local authority	Nil
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4. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1957 :

Demolition Orders.

(i) Demolition Orders made	4
(ii) Houses demolished	5
(iii) Undertakings accepted	Nil
(iv) Houses closed and awaiting demolition	8
(v) Demolition Orders revoked	1

Housing Statistics (Contd.)

4. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

Closing Orders.

(i) Closing Orders made	..	..	2
(ii) Houses closed	..	..	2
(iii) Undertakings accepted	..	..	3
(iv) Closing Orders revoked	..	..	1
(v) Works in progress	..	..	2

5. Housing Act, 1957 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	..	..	4	
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein			5	
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein			37	
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported			Nil	
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	..	..	2	
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases			9	
(d)	Number of cases in which dwelling houses again became overcrowded after the local authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	..	..	..	Nil

Civil Defence.

The Public Works Committee deals with Civil Defence matters. The Borough Surveyor is Civil Defence Officer and Controller designate, while the Headquarters Section is under the control of the Mayor - Alderman G.H. Stevens, J.P.

The position of Evacuation and Billeting Officer is still vacant.

The Head Warden for the Borough is Mr. F.E. Langston.

Training courses for Headquarters, Wardens, Welfare and Rescue Sections continued throughout the year.

Section V.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

All farms in the Borough are supplied with mains water. The position at the end of the year was as follows :-

Number of farms in the Borough	..	..	6
Number actually producing milk	..	..	3
Number of Dairymen (Milk Sellers)	.	..	7
Number of inspections made of Milk Shops	..	..	3
Number of contraventions found	..	..	Nil

Milk Sampling.

Thirty-six samples of Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested milks were taken during the year with the following results :-

Designation	Number of Samples Taken	Methylene Blue Test		
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Samples Void
Pasteurised	20	19	-	1
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	10	10	-	-
Tuberculin Tested	6	4	2	-
TOTALS	36	33	* 2	1

* In each case the attention of the Vendor was drawn to the failure of the samples.

Biological Samples.

No samples were taken by the Department, but two samples of Tuberculin Tested milk taken from Cowkeepers in the Borough by a neighbouring authority were reported as negative to the Brucella Ring Test and to Tuberculosis.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

The following Supplementary Licences were granted during 1958 :-

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	..	3
(b) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk			1
(c) Pasteurised Milk	..	..	8
(d) Sterilised Milk	..	..	2

The Borough was included in a "Specified Area" as from the 1st April, 1954. The effect of the Order defining this Specified

Milk Supply (Contd.)

Area is to make illegal the sale in the Borough of any milk which is not designated, i.e., Sterilised, Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested. In fact, no undesignated milk has been sold in the Town for some years.

Meat and Other Foods.

One private slaughterhouse is licensed in the Borough, but no slaughtering took place on the premises during the year.

Periodic inspections of butchers' shops and vehicles have been carried out, and details of such inspections are as follows :-

(a) Butchers' Shops	..	..	19
(b) Vehicles	..	..	3

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1954.

Seven renewal licences to slaughter animals were granted during 1958.

No new licences were issued.

Food Premises.

Byelaws concerning the "Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air" have been made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. These were confirmed by the Ministry of Food on the 14th June, 1950.

There are 67 food premises in the Borough as follows :-

Bakehouses	..	..	2
Butchers' Shops	..	..	4
Catering Establishments	..	..	13
Chemists	..	..	2
Confectioners	..	..	10
Dairies	..	..	2
Fishmongers	..	..	2
Greengrocers	..	..	4
Grocers	..	..	12
Licensed Premises	..	..	15
Corn Stores	..	..	1

Sixty-three visits of inspection were made to food premises during the year. Generally, the cafes and food shops maintain a high standard of cleanliness.

Nine offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations were observed and remedied by informal action.

Condemned Food.

The following items of food stuffs, weighing a total of 45 lbs. were found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned :-

3 tins - Lambs Livers.
2 tins - Corned Beef.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stone Cod Fillets.

Bakehouses.

There are two bakehouses in the Borough. Four visits were made to these premises and two defects were observed and later remedied.

Ice Cream.

Twenty-four premises in the Borough are registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of ice cream. No ice cream is manufactured in the Borough.

All ice cream is sold wrapped as delivered to the retailers by the manufacturers.

The results of ice cream samples taken by the Food and Drugs Authority for fat content are not available for inclusion in this report.

Fried Fish Shop.

There is one Fish Frying Establishment in the Borough. No complaints have been received regarding the establishment.

Food Adulteration.

The West Sussex County Council is the Authority responsible for the Food Adulteration Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Details of the samples taken in the Borough are not available for inclusion in the report.

Water Cress.

Visits of inspection were made to the watercress beds in the Borough and no complaints were received during the year.

Mortuary.

The Corporation own and maintain a mortuary which is situated in Ford Road adjoining the Cemetery. The building is well equipped and kept in a satisfactory condition.

Petroleum and Carbide.

Nine licences for the storage of petroleum spirit were issued during 1958, and eleven visits of inspection were made for this purpose. The storage arrangements of the applicants were found to be satisfactory.

No licences for the storage of carbide were issued.

Dangerous Structures - Public Health Act, 1936 - Sec. 58.

Informal Notices regarding the repair or renewal of four dangerous buildings or structures were served during the year and entailed ten visits.

Street Lighting.

The Corporation is responsible for street lighting in the Borough and operates 149 street lamps illuminated by gas. During the year two lamps were added to the lighting system.

Six lamps were damaged during 1958 by motor traffic.

Nineteen visits of inspection in regard to street lighting were made.

The Corporation has a seven year contract with the South Eastern Gas Board for street lighting which was renewed as from 1st April, 1952.

Section VI.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF DISEASES.

During 1958 there were notified 85 cases of Measles and 8 of Whooping Cough.

All children and young people up to the age of 26 years are now eligible for vaccination against Poliomyelitis. Both American and British Vaccines are available, and experience both in this country and in America shows the great safety and efficiency of the vaccines in use.

Every parent who neglects to have their children vaccinated against Poliomyelitis shoulders a very heavy responsibility.

No case of Diphtheria has been notified in the Borough since 1945, but it is still necessary to remind parents to have their children protected by immunisation against this disease. The danger of any child catching diphtheria at the present time may be small, but this danger will progressively increase over the years if the level of protection continues to fall.

Cancer.

Six deaths (4 males, 2 females) were attributed to Cancer during the year (6 in 1957).

The Cancer Death Rate for 1958 per 1,000 of the estimated home population is the same as that for 1957 - 2.29. Corresponding rates for the Administrative County and the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex are 2.58, 2.69 and 2.42 respectively.

Diphtheria.

(a) Notifications. No cases of Diphtheria were notified during 1958, nor were any deaths registered as due to this cause.

(b) Immunisation. Twenty-six children under five years of age and three children over five but under fifteen years, received a complete course of protective immunisation in 1958. In addition, six children received 'follow-up' injections.

Measles.

Eighty-five cases were notified and all occurred between April and September.

Pneumonia.

Four cases were notified.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases were notified in the Borough. The attack against this disease in the community is now two fold. Firstly, all children and young people should be registered for vaccination against Poliomyelitis, and secondly, everyone should realise that the disease is largely spread from person to person by infected fingers. Everyone should always wash their hands after using the lavatory.

Tuberculosis.

One primary notification of respiratory Tuberculosis was received during 1958, but no deaths were recorded as due to this cause.

The following table gives details of the number of cases on the notification register at the end of the year :-

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total Cases		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Cases on Register 1.1.58.	3	7	10	1	2	3	4	9	13
Primary Notifications-1958	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Transfer Cases	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Restorations to Register	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	3	9	12	1	2	3	4	11	15
Cases removed - 1958	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number on Register 31.12.58	3	9	12	1	2	3	4	11	15

Other Diseases.

No notifications were received during the year of the under-mentioned diseases :-

Cholera	Food Poisoning	Plague
Diphtheria	Malaria	Poliomyelitis
Dysentery	Membranous Croup	Puerperal Pyrexia
Encephalitis(Acute)	Meningococcal	Relapsing Fever
Enteric Fever	Infection	Smallpox
Erysipelas	Ophthalmia	Typhus Fever
	Neonatorum	Whooping Cough

Table showing Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified during
the Year 1958.

Disease	Cases Notified		A g e D i s t r i b u t i o n												TOTAL	
	M	F	Total													
				0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	65-		
Measles	44	41	85	1	4	4	7	9	56	3	-	1	-	-	85	
Pneumonia	1	3	4	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	4	
Scarlet Fever	6	2	8	-	-	1	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	8	
Tuberculosis-Resp.	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
TOTALS	51	47	98	1	4	5	7	11	63	3	-	2	1	1	98	

Details of Notifications received of
Measles, Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough since 1949.

Disease	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Measles	52	7	127	7	61	-	39	27	-	85
Scarlet Fever	6	14	-	8	2	7	4	-	-	8
Whooping Cough	-	1	44	-	5	39	4	1	-	-